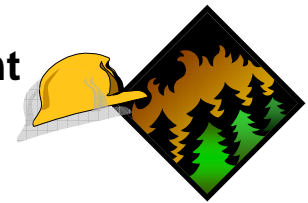


# Interagency Fire Program Management

Qualifications Standards and Guide  
<http://ifpm.nifc.gov>



## IFPM Implementation Status Report March 4, 2005

### IFPM Implementation Team:

The Implementation Team met February 8-10 in Boise, ID. Several items were discussed including:

- Addition of positions to the IFPM Standard – this issue will be presented to the NFAEB for discussion.
- Agency crosswalks – several agencies have modified their crosswalks, these changes will be published on the IFPM website.
- Implementation Plan – the Team reviewed the implementation plan and made revisions based on the January 20<sup>th</sup> decision by NFAEB to allow new hires until October 1, 2009 to meet the minimum qualification standards. These changes will be published on the IFPM website.
- National/Regional level implementation – this issue will be brought to the NFAEB for discussion.
- Request for information – a request for information from the field will be going out in March to determine the overall impacts of IFPM as well as future training needs.
- Crediting courses for the GS-0401 series – the Team worked on guidance for the fire management and HR community to clarify what course work is creditable toward the GS-0401 series. As more information is available it will be posted on the IFPM website.

### GS-0401 Education/Training Assessment Board:

The GS-0401 Education/Training Assessment Board met March 1-3, 2005 to consider and screen course assessment requests submitted by the 5 wildland fire agencies. The Board members, chaired by Joette Borzik (FWS), include Dave Koch (BIA), Mary Farnsworth (USFS), Don Washco (BLM), and Robin Wills (NPS). A Human Resource Advisor was also present at the meeting.

A total of 100 course assessments were reviewed to ascertain whether the courses meet the criteria established by the Office of Personnel Management for the GS-0401 series. The Board also discussed a wide range of topics related to IFPM and the GS-0401 series including:

- Differences between “collegiate” courses and “agency” provided courses as related to clarifying whether a course should be assessed for inclusion on Attachment 3 or be assessed through Human Resources using transcripts.
- The intent behind the GS-0401 series and application of criteria to assess course work related to biological science, natural resource, wildland fire management, forestry and agriculture.

Standard operating procedures for the Board, including the flowchart describing timeframes for the Course Assessment Process, can be found in the IFPM Implementation Plan- Appendix A. The date for the next submission of additional Course Assessment Requests is due February 1, 2006.

